



Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

MEMORANDUM

TO: High School Principals

FROM: Dr. Tony Bennett
Superintendent of Public Instruction

DATE: May 25, 2010

SUBJECT: United States Senate Youth Program

I am pleased to announce that the Indiana Bar Foundation (IBF) will once again partner with the Indiana Department of Education and to administer the 2010-2011 United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP). The IBF is well-known for its work in civic education through the *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution* and *We the People: Project Citizen* programs.

You are invited to nominate one outstanding junior or senior from your high school to be considered as a candidate for USSYP, sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. **Each principal can nominate one student only.** The nominated student must be serving in an elected, selected or appointed capacity in a student government or in a civic or educational organization, during the 2010-2011 school year.

This program should be advertised to all eligible students. In the event that more than one student seeks your school's nomination, an impartial process should be conducted to select your nominee. The qualities desired in a nominee include: leadership ability, academic achievement, good communication skills, logical thinking and community involvement.

Two students from each state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Schools will be selected to attend a seminar in Washington, D.C. from March 5th to March 12th, 2011. The Hearst Foundation will pay all expenses for the Washington week, including transportation, hotel and meals. Students selected will also be eligible to receive a \$5,000 college scholarship from the Hearst Foundation.

If you would like to nominate a student from your school, please submit your nomination materials **postmarked no later than October 1st, 2010** to:

Erin Braun, Director of Civic Education & *We the People* State Coordinator, Indiana Bar Foundation, 230 E. Ohio Street, 4th Floor, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Nomination documents must include the following: 1) a nomination form bearing your signature; 2) a 350-500 word student essay on the assigned prompt; 3) a one-page student resume and 4) a letter of support from you.

All materials can be found on the Indiana Bar Foundation's website at www.inbf.org. Thank you for your assistance with this year's program. It is an excellent opportunity for two of Indiana's best young citizens. I wish you luck with your nominees and encourage every school in the state to submit a student for consideration for this once in a lifetime opportunity.